A

CAVEAT

Against admitting

Rome and *France*

To Intermeddle in the ELECTIONS of Protestant *English* Parliaments.

—— *Insidias cave dispositas tibi tela parantur.*
—— *Exaudit Deus deprecantes, & conantes adjuvat.*
Non semper Lilia florent.

LONDON,
Printed for JOHN BAKER, in *Pater-noster-Row*, 1715.
(Price Four Pence.)

A CAVEAT

Against admitting

Rome and France

To Intermeddle in the ELECTIONS of Protestant Popish Parliaments.

BRITISH MUSEUM

LONDON.
Printed for JOHN BAKER, in Fleet-Street, 1715.

(Price Four Pence.)

A CAVEAT, &c.

THERE has been so much of *Rome*, *France*, and *Popery*, in the unparallel'd flagrant Affronts that have been offer'd of late unto our Sovereign King *George*, by a Sett of Miscreants, who have disgrac'd the very Name of ENGLISH, that it must needs provoke the Resentments of every true *Englishman* and *Protestant*. The Insolence of that Party is heighten'd of late, by a thing which comes from *Loraine*; which, if I knew the first Word of it, I would name it as the *Pope* of late did an Instrument of his, *Unigenitus*, for that Reason. But it is what is call'd, *A Declaration*, &c. And now upon the dissolving of one Parliament, and the Expectation of another, they every Day grow worse and worse.

And therefore I would warn my honest *Countrymen*, according to the Title prefix'd, to beware of admitting *Rome* or *France* to intermeddle in our Elections of Parliaments. We have a great deal of Reason to conclude, that they who are serving the Cause of *Rome*, are in the Pay of *Rome*. But this more plainly will appear in the following Discourse. And therein I shall give,

I. Some Inſtances and Proofs of *France* and *Rome*'s Intermeddling in our Elections of Parliaments.

And ſome of their Methods they have uſed to get Parliaments to their Mind; and what they deſign'd they ſhould do, when they could ſo procure them.

II. I will ſhew how they have executed their Deſigns, when they have had ſuch a Parliament.

And then I ſhall uſe ſome plain, and I hope convincing Arguments, why we ſhould always beware of ſuch Enemies, eſpecially at this Election.

I. I will give ſome Inſtances and Proofs that *France* and *Rome* have intermeddled in our Elections. I hope my Reader will be abundantly ſatisfy'd as to this, with that Account that we have in that Letter, directed to the Rector of *Bruſſels*, that was found amongſt the Papers of ſome *Jeſuits*; when two Parliaments had been call'd, and diſſolv'd with Diſſatisfaction; and a third was order'd to be ſummon'd on the 17*th* of *March*, 1627. —— The Author of that Letter writes thus to him.

" LET not the Damp of Aſtoniſhment ſeize " upon your ardent and zealous Soul, upon " the Account of the ſudden and unexpected call- " ing of this Parliament. We have not oppos'd, " but further'd it; and hope as much from this, " as we fear'd one in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Days.

" You ſhall ſee this Parliament will reſemble " the *Pelican*, which takes a Pleaſure to dig out " her own Bowels with her own Beak. The E- " lection of *Knights* and *Burgeſſes* has been in ſuch

" Con-

" Confuſion, and apparent Faction, that what " we were wont heretofore to work with much " Art and Induſtry, now breaks forth na- " turally as a Botch or Boil, and ſpits and ſpues " out its own Rancour and Venom.

" We were much bound to ſome *eminent State*ſ- " *men* of our Country, for procuring thoſe *ad-* " *vantageous Cœlations of ARMS* in the *Palati-* " *nate*, and *vilifying* the *Hollanders*. None but " the *Puritans* were *Enemies* to this *happy Union*; " *viz.* the *Spaniſh* Match.

" We have made great Uſe of this *Anarchical* " Election; none but the King's Enemies are " choſen for this Parliament. They vow to be- " gin where the others left; and will never give " over, till they have *extirpated him and his Po-* " *ſterity*. *London* is as much diſtemper'd as ever " *Florence* was, for the *Companies are at odds*; " and the *Common Council* have oppoſed the " Magiſtrates againſt their own Cuſtoms, in " the Elections of Knights; which has bred " great Heart-burnings in this City. So that " twice a Day we can divulge what we pleaſe in " *Paul*'s, and upon the *Exchange*.

" We have already render'd our irreconcileable " Enemy, the Duke of *B*——— as odious as a " Toad. The *People will believe any thing*; and we " hope to be reveng'd.

" We charm ſome ——— But the *violent Sort* " we work on their Paſſions, and inebriate their " Fancies with Probabilities, and Preſidents that " were never heard of. And we aſſure our " ſelves that God has ſo forſaken them, that " they ſhall not only ſtrike, and daſh upon the " ſame Rock again, but ſink and wreck into the " bottomleſs Sea of Deſtruction.

" We

" We have many Strings to our Bow, and " have ſtrongly fortify'd our Faction; and both " Factions co-operate to deſtroy the Parliament, " and introduce a *new Species* of *Government*. " We proceed by Counſel and mature Deliberation, and give Honour to thoſe who merit it, " the *Church Catholicks*. We take care to *ſtave off* " *the* Puritans, who negotiate a Reconciliation " betwixt the D—— and the Parliament; and " aſſure our ſelves, that we have ſo handled our " Matters, that the D—— and the Parliament are " irreconcileable.

" I cannot chuſe but laugh to ſee ſome of our " Coat, how they accoutre themſelves. You " could ſcarce know them if you ſaw them: It " is admirable how in Speech and Geſture they " act the *Puritans*. I am tranſported with Joy to " ſee how happily all Inſtruments co-operate to " our Purpoſes.

" We ſhew the King how He may raiſe Money " without being beholding to his Subjects, *viz.* " by way of *Impoſition* and *Exciſe*; and that this " muſt be done by a mercenary Army of Horſe " and Foot. If this Army ſubjugate the Coun- " try, then the Soldiers and Projectors ſhall be " paid out of the Confiſcations; but if the " Country be too hard for the Soldiers, then they " muſt conſequently Mutiny, which is equally ad- " vantageous unto us.

" Our *ſuperlative Deſign* is, to work *Proteſtants*, " as well as *Catholicks*, to *welcome* in a *Conqueror*. " By this Means we hope inſtantly to *diſſolve all* " *Trade*, and *hinder the building of Ships*, by deviſing " probable Deſigns, and putting the State upon " Expeditions.

" His *Catholick Majeſty* ſhall not want our beſt " Intelligence: When things are brought to this " Perfection, all People will long for the *Con-*

" *queror*.

" *queror.* And we assure our selves, that the " Lands that were torn from the Church by " that *ravenous Monster Henry the* VIIIth, shall " be reassum'd, and restor'd.

" Join your Prayers with ours, in importuning " the blessed Virgin, and all the Hosts of Angels, " and Saints, and holy Martyrs, to intercede for " us; and no question but God will hast to help " us.

To these let me add out of *Coleman*'s known Letters.

" I press'd all I could to perswade His most " Christian Majesty to *prevent* that *Session* of *Par-* " *liament*, and propos'd Expedients how to do it. " It was his Royal Highness's Opinion, that if " His most Christian Majesty would make the " same Offer to His Majesty of *England*, of his " *Purse* to *dissolve* this Parliament, which he made " to his *Royal Highness* to *call another*; he did " believe it very possible to succeed, with the " Assistance we could give him here. I would " willingly be in everlasting Disgrace with all " the World, if I did not gain the Duke my " Master his former Offices, especially that of " Admiral, with the Assistance of 200000 *l.* If " we advance the Duke's Interest one Step for- " wards, we shall put him out of the Reach of " Chance for ever.

" We have *two great Designs*, our prevailing in " these would give the greatest *Blow* to the *Pro-* " *testant Religion*, that ever it receiv'd since its " Birth. I can scarce believe my self, when I " think on a Prince, in such an Age as we live " in, converted to such a Degree, as not to re- " gard any thing in Comparison of God Al- " mighty's Glory.

In

In his Letter to *Le Chese.*

"We have here a mighty Work upon our Hands, "no less than the *Conversion of Three Kingdoms*; "and perhaps by that, the utter subduing a *pesti-* "*lent Heresy*, which has long domineer'd. There "were never such Hopes of Success, since the "Death of Queen *Mary*, as now in our Days. "That we rely upon, next God Almighty, and "the Favour of the Duke my Master, is the "mighty Mind of His most Christian Majesty, "whose generous Soul enclines him to great Un- "dertakings.

In an Account of *Thomas White*, alias *White-* *head*, thus, *viz.*

"That he came to *Oxford* under pretence of "being a converted *Jew*; and being impriſon'd, "pretended Diſtraction: Acted a Speaker at a "*Quakers* Meeting, with an old faſhion'd pinkt "Fuſtian Jerkin, clouted Shoes, Breeches fac'd "with Leather, and a Carter's Whip in his "Hand. Afterwards the Relator (a Church Mi- "niſter) met him in a Habit of a Miniſter; "and, going with him to his Lodgings, he "ſhew'd him ſeveral ſtrange Habits for Diſ- "guiſe; and ſaid, he one-while tamper'd with "*Oxford* Students, and another while with ſome "Diſſenting Miniſters.

We ſee then how much our Enemies have con- cerned themſelves in our Affairs; In gaining Statesmen, and engaging them in their Intereſts; influencing our Wars and Peace abroad, to pro- mote their Ends; *vilifying the Hollanders*; diſſa- bling Diſſenters to oppoſe; impoſing falſe News; fo-

fomenting Differences in the City; misrepresenting Ministers of State; abusing the Weakness of the common People, and exciting their Passions; suiting themselves to the various Humours, Inclinations, and Interests of Men, and fortify their Factions by every Event. They raise Monarchy above our Laws, that in our Confusions they may bring in a *Pretender*; (this you see is no new Game.) Many Designs to ruin our Trade and Shipping; keep constant Correspondence with our Enemies, how to betray us; have their Tools in Disguises amongst all Sorts and Distinctions of Persons; own the *French* King their great Supporter; have Recourse to him for Money; and have received great Sums to dissolve and chuse Parliaments, and influence their Managements. All their Designs are utterly to extirpate our Religion, which they call *Heresy*, and at last deliver us over as a Prey to *France* and *Rome*; are in Raptures of Joy to find, how easily we fall in with their Schemes and Designs against our own Interests; and look upon us under Infatuation, through the just Judgment of God. So do they reckon at last to attain their Ends.

I now proceed to shew you, how Parliaments are to be compos'd and model'd; and what Business they are to do, when they can procure such according to their Mind. We cannot but be sensible, what a deal of the same Work we have seen, how *England*'s Enemies in all times act in Concert.

But now, as to what Sort of a Parliament Papists would have, and what they are to do, I know not where we can have better Information, than from *Parsons* his *Memoirs*, (which I have lately seen) which contains a Plan or Model of *Romish*

Reformation, *a la mode de France*; and which was found on King *James* his Table when he was fled.

The *House of Lords* to receive the Addition of *several Provincials*, or such like.

The Election of Members for the House of Commons, to be wholly restrained to Cities and greater Towns; and the Lower House to have also a *Mixture of Ecclesiasticks* and *Religious Orders*, to take Care of the Church. But then all the Members that are to be chosen, the *Bishop* of the *Diocese*, as the propereſt Judge, is to give Direction as to their Qualification; and also to have a Power to confirm their Elections. A hopeful Constitution. Our Expectations cannot but be great, as to what such a Mixture of Gentlemen are to do. When these are met, they are to settle Elections; that is, if the Bishop of the Diocese has left any thing for them to do. They are to take the Oaths every Man, to defend the *Roman* Catholick Faith. And it is to be made Treason for ever, for any Man to propose any thing for the Change thereof, or any Introduction of Heresy. They are to examine, whether Queen *Elizabeth* was lawful Queen; and if not, then all Her Acts of Grace, Gifts, Donations, Livings, Titles, Honours, Offices, to be, *ipso Facto*, void to all Protestants: But not to *Papists*; theirs shall be allowed to be good. And

They are to abrogate *all Laws whatever*, that had been in Prejudice of the *Roman* Catholick Religion; and restore, and put in full Authority again, all *old Laws* that were in their Favour. All *noted Hereticks*, and their *Posterity*, to be disabled from all temporal Honours and Preferments, as well as spiritual. The Work of Reformation having been left imperfect in Queen

Mary's

Mary's Time, Care must be taken, that the second Error be not worse than the first. No Toleration, unless for a Time; for there's nothing more offensive, than that the *Ark* of *Israel* and *Dagon*, God and the Devil, should stand, and be honour'd together in this Kingdom. God has declar'd his heavy Displeasure for such patching of Matters; and therefore they must begin a-new to build from the very Foundation. Churches are to be consecrated a-new, and publickly hallow'd; because of the Profanation of Hereticks: And this for the more Detestation of Heresy; No *Catholick* Service to be said till this is done.

And because *Religious Orders* have been here in *England*, more persecuted and defac'd than in any Christian Countrey, it will be convenient to make such an Amends and Recompence, as is not besides in any other Kingdom, *viz.* That *all the approved Religious Orders* that are in the Church of God, shall be *call'd into* England, and plac'd in the City of *London*: And they reckon'd that in *Five Years Time*, there might be more Variety of Religious Houses, Abbies, Nunneries, Hospitals, Seminaries, *&c.* than before what they call the Desolation. (What Cause then have we to renew our Thanks to our God, that King *James* went off at the Four Years End.) A Martyrology should be compos'd, that due Honour might be paid to *Popish Martyrs*, Churches, Chappels, *&c.* and other Memorials built in the Places where they suffer'd, and especially *TYBURN*, where some Religious House of Education should be erected, as a Place of Devotion, and a short Pilgrimage for the Citizens of *London*, and others, to repair to.

Care is to be taken, that all *Publick and Private Libraries* be search'd and examin'd; and all *Bookbinders*, *Stationers*, and *Booksellers* Shops, for *Here-*

tical Books and *Pamphlets*, that they may all be *burnt*.

They encourage themſelves much in the Advantages they have (as they ſay) for their Reeſtabliſhment here; becauſe *Cathedrals*, *Univerſities*, and *Colleges*, are yet left ſtanding, and want nothing to give them Life but a *new Form*.

And when theſe things are done, this Church, which he calls, the *Engliſh* Church, and the Church of *England*, (as many of them alſo ſpeak in our Days.) This Church, and the temporal State, will be like a Garden newly planted with all kinds of ſweet Herbs, Flowers, Seeds, and Trees, and fortify'd as a ſtrong Caſtle with all neceſſary Defence, for the Continuance and Preſervation of the ſame. So that *England* may be a Spectacle for all the reſt of the Chriſtian World round about; and Almighty God glorify'd, according to the infinite Multitude of Diſhonours done unto him in theſe latter Days.

But then, as the Top-ſtroke of all, eſpecial Care muſt be taken, that there may be a ſound Manner of *Inquiſition* eſtabliſh'd here, after the Manner of *Italy* or *Spain*, or one, perhaps, mix'd of both, for the Conſervation of that which is planted.

Having now given ſuch clear Proofs, that *France* and *Rome* intermeddle in our Elections, *&c.*

What Methods they take to get Parliaments to their Minds; and what they deſign'd they ſhould do, when they had them.

II. I proceed, in the next Place, to ſhew, That theſe were not chymerical Projects, but that they have writ after theſe Copies; and what, in Purſuance of ſuch Deſigns, they have executed.

I might put you in mind what King *James* did here in so short a time, when he had the Difficulties of so many Promises and Engagements to the Church and Nation first to break through, and rid his Hands of.

Remember his *seizing* of *Charters*, *Corporations*, and *Colleges*; his sending the *Bishops* to *the Tower*; his *setting* up an *Ecclesiastical Commission-Court*; his bloody Treatment of the *Western* Inhabitants, *&c.*

But I wave all these, to point you to the barefaced Dealing in *Ireland*, where he shew'd how well he had profited by the Instructions he had received; and how resolved he was to inslave his Subjects, to establish Popery in all its Power, and utterly to extirpate Hereticks, and their accurs'd Religion. In order to which, what Persons he displaced there, what Tools he imployed, not only of the most indigent and meanest, but of the most vile and scandalous; such as were guilty of *Forgery*, *Burglary*, *Robbery*, *Murder*, and such as broke Prison, when under Sentence of Death for their Crimes.

Hundreds of Footmen and others preferred to be Captains, *&c.* who, as soon as engaged, generally shew'd how well qualified they were for their Places, and gave Earnests of their Serviceableness by perpetrating some notorious Wickedness with the first Opportunity. There were other rare Tools, such as Sir *Stephen Rice*, a Chief Judge, who was often hear'd to say, that he would drive a Coach and Six through the Act of Settlement; and Sir *Robert Parker*, who said, they would *starve* one half of the *Protestants*, and *hang* the rest, and it wou'd never be well till then. The Plea was, the King might use such Servants as he pleas'd.

I shall not enter into the Detail of the Methods in Courts of Judicature and Proceedings against Corporations, *&c.*

To

To give the Proteſtants an Earneſt of what they were to expect, they took from them both Arms and Horſes; and when Towns were full of Soldiers, threatned the Inhabitants, that they ſhould be left to the Mercy of the Soldiers, if they deliver'd not up their Arms; and under Pretence of ſearching for Arms, tore the Dead out of their Graves, tumbled them out of their Coffins, and ſo let them lye expoſed, till they were pleas'd to let the Proteſtants bury them again.

As to Parliaments: Becauſe of the Numerouſneſs of Proteſtant Peers and Biſhops, there was a Liſt of ſuch Papiſts drawn up, as the King might call up by Writ, and ſo overvote 'em; and Care was taken to reverſe Outlawries of popiſh Lords, and alſo a new Creation of Four, and a Reſerve there was for more to be called up if there ſhould be occaſion.

As to the Commons: No regard was had to Eſtates to qualifie Perſons; for Men got in, and were put in, that they might *get* Eſtates; and what Elections were made, and what a Set of Tools the King got for his Purpoſe, was ſeen, when, between the *Seventh* of *May*, and the *Twentieth* of *July* following, they entirely deſtroyed the Settlement of *Ireland*, and outed Proteſtant Clergy and Laity of their Freeholds and Inheritances.

I will but add one Inſtance more, but it's a Swinger, to let you ſee what a popiſh Parliament will do; they ſcorn to trifle and proceed by ſlow Meaſures. Dr. *King*, from whom I have this Account, ſays; Every Member of their precious Houſe of Commons returned the Names of ſuch Proteſtant Gentlemen as lived near them in the County or Borough for which they ſtood, and a Bill of Attainder was brought againſt

Arch-

Arch-Biſhops	2	Biſhops	7
Duke	1	Knights	85
Temporal Lords	63	Clergymen	83
Ladies	22	Eſqs; and Gentlemen	2182
		In all	2445.

Now this was to take and do Buſineſs by *the Lump*, the *ſhorteſt way*. In the Liſt of theſe Perſons, ſeveral were only named by their Surnames, without any Chriſtian-Name, or any Title, Place of Abode, or Imployment, to diſtinguiſh them from others of the ſame Name. When this Bill was preſented by Sir *Richard Nagle* for the Royal Aſſent, he told the King, many were *attainted* in that Act by the Houſe of Commons, upon ſuch Evidence as fully ſatisfied that Houſe; the reſt, he ſaid, were *attainted upon common Fame*, and of this Expreſſion Lords and Commons were Witneſſes.

When any preſſed that late King to Moderation, he ſaid, he never expected to get to *England* but by Fire and Sword. And then, when Proteſtants complained of their Preſſures, Papiſts would tell them, they ought to be patient, Chriſt endured more; they ſhould leave all to Providence, and ſee what God wou'd do for them, writing after the Copy of *Julian* (as ſome others well know they did, when they ſaid concerning the Proteſtant Galley-Slaves, that to releaſe them, would be to rob them of the Glory of their Martyrdom, which they might have in dying in their Slavery); and yet all this while, there never wanted a Party here to cry up King *James*'s mild Government of the Proteſtants in *Ireland*; and ſaid, that they lived very much at their Eaſe; but took all the Care they cou'd, that we ſhou'd not have any true Relation. They employed one

Talden,

Talden, a wretched Fellow, a Convert, (one no doubt of our Examiner's Family) to write a Weekly Paper, which he called *an Abhorrence*; to rake together all the Stories he could meet with, and invent the reſt, to reflect upon Proteſtants, and eſpecially the Clergy.

The Repreſentations laid before us, are ſufficient to convince any Perſons that are not wilfully blind, that our *French* and *Romiſh* Adverſaries have always intermeddled in our Affairs, both Civil and Religious; and that their Aims have been to ruin us in both; and that ſometimes they have been very near accompliſhing their Deſigns.

How often ſoever they have been baffled, they are not diſcouraged from renewing the Attack, as long as they find ſo many mercenary Wretches ready to betray all that ſhould be dear to *Engliſhmen*; and others, who, how often ſoever they have been fool'd and impoſed upon, are as averſe to be diſabuſed and undeceived as ever they were.

Amongſt all the Attempts that our Enemies make to practiſe upon us, in order to our certain Ruine, they think none of greater Importance than the Choice and Management of our Parliaments; and you heard how far the *French* King's Purſe has been employed, and with what Succeſs, *&c.*

When we have now an Election of Parliament in hand, does it not concern every true *Engliſh* Proteſtant, to beware of popiſh Deſigns and Influence: In the Seaſons of Elections, many Citizens of *London* have been aware of extraordinary Returns of Money from *France*, which none have doubted were to promote the Intereſt of the Tools of their Party. Thus ſome Men, who could not make it appear that they were worth

many

many Hundreds of their own, by ſome ſort of delegated Power, have been enabled to ſpend Thouſands. That we have had ſome choſen by ſuch Means, who have ſtrenuouſly endeavour'd the promoting of our Enemies Intereſt, is too well known to require any other Proof than their own Action.

I would addreſs my ſelf therefore, in a few Words, to my Countrymen, that are concern'd to take care how they engage in their Intereſts and their Votes. It is a very ſad caſe, that there are ſome, who are ſo drown'd in Senſuality and Debauch, that they are not capable of being reaſoned with; who, during the time of treating for Votes, their Trade and Buſineſs is neglected, their Families ſtarv'd, and they ſcarce diſtinguiſhable from brute Beaſts. Methinks that Brewer's Servant moſt fully ſpake all the Senſe of ſuch Creatures, who ſaid, he deſired no greater Happineſs than to be that Leathern Pipe through which all his Maſter's Ale was convey'd into the Cellars of his Cuſtomers. How ſad is the Caſe of ſo many worthy *Engliſh* Gentlemen, ſo excellently qualified for the Service of their Country, that they muſt make their Way through ſo much Rubbiſh and Slavery, and at ſo great Expence, to the impairing their Eſtates, to ſave ſuch ſordid Wretches from Miſery and Slavery? All that I have further to ſay of theſe Perſons, that Gentlemen are under a ſort of unhappy Neceſſity to treat with in theſe ways, ſo much in uſe, is this; that it is very likely that the Courſe they take will ſoon rid the World of many of them, and that in a little time ſome way may be found that this brutiſh manner of engaging of Votes, will meet with no more Encouragement.

The next ſort of Perſons which are to be conſidered, are thoſe whoſe Intereſt in voting for

Members is always the highest Bidders; their governing Principle in all their Actions being discover'd by this Question, what shall I get by it? So those that bid the highest are sure to have them. Now it has been very manifest, and I question not but will be again in these Elections, that *French* and *Romish* Factors will have considerable Sums to lay out, and they will be sure to lay out as may turn to the best account for their Masters. Think a little then what you do.

As Custom has unhappily obtain'd that this way is become necessary, know that there are some that are your Friends that would gladly engage you to your own and your Country's Interest, and they would treat you like Men in your Senses; the others suppose you to have lost them, and none but those that are out of their Senses, would act at that rate, to sell their Vote to the highest Bidder. It seems it's all one to you whether *English* or *French*, whether Papist or Protestant, whether one that would maintain you in all your *English* Privileges, or one that designs to beggar you and enslave you, have your Vote and Interest. If these *French* and *Romish* Factors, and their Freinds, by this Means happen to get a Majority, then where are you? Such Buyers, assure your selves, purpose to make the most of you. If you have no Concern about others, pray consider a little, that, as far as lies in you, you are selling your Wives and Children to be Slaves, and your Lands to your new Masters; and the best you can hope for is, that they please to let you be Tenants, which yet don't flatter your selves that you shall be, unless you also sell them your Souls and your Consciences in turning Papists.

For Shame, *Engliſhmen*, born in the happieſt Country, and brought up under the beſt Government, don't act at this fooliſh and deſperate rate, eſpecially when Providence has put it into the Power of our Hands (once more) to make our ſelves as happy as ever *England* was ſince it was a Nation.

What? know ye no Difference, betwixt being the Subjects of the beſt of Kings, and Slaves to the worſt of Tyrants? and betwixt being the Subjects of a Prince able and willing to aſſiſt us in paying *our* Debts, and one, a poor Pretender, that muſt have mortgag'd his pretended Right and Claim to pay *his* Debts? Know ye no Difference between being able to maintain your ſelves, your Wives, and your Children comfortably, and being at the ſcanty Allowance of your new Maſters! which will but be a bare Subſiſtence to keep Soul and Life together, that you may ſlave on for them! Know ye no Difference between wearing *Engliſh* Cloth, or *French* Canvas or Hempen? betwixt being fed with good *Engliſh* Beef and Pudding, and drinking good Ale and Beer, and that which is little better than Bread and Water, the loweſt Food of Malefactors and Priſoners? Don't flatter your ſelves with the Hopes of Wine, that's for your Maſters, as will be every thing elſe that is good; but if you are reſolved to run the Hazard of ſelling your ſelves at this miſerable rate, pray who gave you Power thus to ſell your Wives and your poor innocent Babes? Many of you have nothing but what they brought you, and will you thus requite them, to enſlave them and their Poſterity? Firſt then go home and ask their Conſent before you drive that curſed Bargain.

This is nakedly the Caſe, if you will ſell your Vote and Intereſt to the higheſt Bidder, tho' they

be Papiſts in Diſguiſe, and Tools and Factors of *Rome* and *France*. Believe not that Generation of Men who ſo gull'd and trickt you with Lies and Shams, and told you of the Bleſſedneſs of Peace, and yet have multiplied our Difficulties upon us, and encreaſed the Nation's Debts in the time of Peace more than in the time of War, as our Sovereign tells us they are ſo encreaſed, to his great Concern. If you have unadviſedly engaged to give your Intereſt to thoſe who would betray us to our Enemies, go and reſtore the Wages of Unrighteouſneſs, as you hope to live like Engliſhmen and Freemen, and die in Peace like good Chriſtians.

The Inſolence of Papiſts, and their Friends, diſcovering it ſelf every Day more and more, as the Day of Elections draws on, finding what a pickle ſome Sots are in Danger to be in, and what a Reſolution ſome declare they have taken to give their Votes for the higheſt Bidder, be he who or what he will, apprehending the dangerous Conſequences, I have come in haſt to prevent as much of this Miſchief as I can, and I hope my ſincere good Will to my Country, and my Concern for the Proteſtant Religion, and our valuable *Engliſh* Privileges, will excuſe the Want of a finer and more modiſh Dreſs to make my Appearance in. I think it would be as abſurd as it would have been in our late dreadful Fire, to have then ſtood and harrangu'd the Crowd, inſtead of immediately aſſiſting to extinguiſh thoſe terrible Flames.

After all, hoping that ſome will make a Stop, and recollect themſelves, before they ſtrike up the Bargain, to give up, as far as lies in them, all that's dear to us, into the Hands of our irreconcilable Enemies; hoping that ſome ſuch will make a Stop, and conſider a little what I have

offer'd

offer'd againſt it, before it be too late: I would deſire of ſuch Truffickers, upon their declared Principle, to decide me theſe plain and ſhort Queſtions, *viz.*

1. Whether any Man, in his Senſes, needs to be hired to do his utmoſt to prevent a general Conflagration, where his own Habitation and Effects muſt periſh, and his own Family be hazarded in common with the reſt?

2. But in caſe there was danger of ſuch a Conflagration, and you were reſolved not to ſtir, unleſs you muſt be hired, and paid for your Pains; in ſuch a caſe, according to your baſe Principle, if any honeſt Citizens were hiring you to aſſiſt in quenching thoſe Flames, and ſome popiſh *French* Incendiaries ſhould come and offer you more, either to throw Fire-balls, or to refuſe to help to extinguiſh thoſe Flames, or to do all you could to hinder thoſe who would do their beſt to extinguiſh ſuch Flames; would you be engaged by theſe latter, becauſe they offer you a greater Reward?

Oh for Shame! never pretend to the Name of *Engliſh* more, if you can act ſuch diabolical Parts for ſuch Rewards: If this Glance of your ſelves, I have given you, do affright you, as I think well it may, blame not the Glaſs for a true Repreſentation of that deformed Pourtraiture that is of your own drawing. Come, come, let us no more give *Rome* occaſion to banter us, as their *Paſquin* once did, when, in his way, he gave Notice in *Rome*, that if any were diſpoſed to buy

the

the Kingdom of *England*, they might repair to a certain Merchant in Black, with a ſquare Cap, in that City, and they ſhould have it a very good Penyworth. Let them have no more ſuch Advantages againſt us as they have had by one in Black in this City, who, with ſome like himſelf, would fain have the ſelling of us. Let us be no longer the Scorn and Inſult of *Rome* and *France*, nor bubbled by any of their Agents here. Let us no longer give them occaſion to boaſt, that they can make us believe what they pleaſe; and, like infatuated Fools, be their Inſtruments to act againſt our own Intereſts; or that we have ſo far abandoned our Reaſon and Senſes, as ſhould argue that we are forſaken of God. Is it not from their Experience, how eaſily little Burrows are bought and ſold; that when they get Power in their Hands, they reſolve (as you have heard) to entruſt you no longer with a Power of Voting, leſt you ſhould be as fooliſh and falſe in their Service as you have been in others; that it may never be in your Power to do any thing towards your delivering your ſelves from that Slavery you ſold your ſelves to.

Permit your ſelves no more to be under the Direction of thoſe who have ſo long made the Plea of Religion and Church a mere ſtalking Horſe to villanous and enſlaving Deſigns. Have no regard to the Argument, Church, Church, as it comes from them, whoſe Mouths, all the reſt of the Day, are fill'd with Oaths, Curſes, and Blaſphemies; and whoſe Lives and Converſations are the perfect reverſe of all the Laws and Rules of our holy Religion. And ſince the Papiſts call themſelves of the Church of *England*, the old Church of *England*, eſtabliſh'd by Law, make them better explain themſelves, before you truſt them, eſpecially thoſe whom you know to have acted con-

contrary to all our Intereſts, as *Engliſhmen* and Proteſtants; and with them treat alſo with Caution thoſe who have no viſible Eſtates, or known Imployments to maintain them, and yet make a ſplendid Appearance, and many of whom are often ſeen in ſeveral very different Changes of Apparel in a Day's time, and ſome of them frequently changing their Lodgings.

Conſider what ſuch different Appearances, as one while, as ſimple Gentlemen; another while, as Merchants; another while, as Church of *England* Miniſters in their Gowns, as in our late Mobs there were of theſe noble Auxiliaries, that, according to that Advice ſent heretofore to the Rector of *Bruſſels*, could perform their Part to a Wonder; as particularly that Monſieur *Crumpback* that went to accompany the Pollers in *Covent-Garden*, crying, The Church, The Church, in his Gown, as a Church of *England* Miniſter; at other times, in ſecond Mourning: and it's well known how Convents abroad were emptyed at that time, that they came here to lend their Aſſiſtance in managing our Elections. Some new Converts, Proſelytes, have been in great danger here, for ſaying what Numbers of thoſe Gentlemen, of their former Acquaintance, they have met walking in our Streets, and frequenting the Places of the greateſt Concourſe of People; and the many Compliments thoſe Prieſts meet with in their walking the Streets, ſhow how numerous their Acquaintance is, notwithſtanding the frequent Repreſentations made how few the Papiſts are here in *London*; when ſome would have the total Sum of them be no more than what others ſee ſometimes attend at one Maſs-Houſe in one Day.

Come

Come then, my brave Countrymen, let us no longer be banter'd out of our Senſes; profit by all our dear-bought Experience; neither let us ſuffer our ſelves to be bully'd with the noiſy impotent Threats of a *Pretender*, and his Supporters. As it is not worth while to ſuffer a Party of Men to ſet the Nation on Fire, to call in that *Creature* to quench it; ſo neither is there any Reaſon to be afraid of his Threatnings. Let our Enemies underſtand, that we know when we are well; and believe, that we cannot be better than under the Government of our only lawful Sovereign King *George*. I believe, that one Reaſon why theſe Laches and cowardly Wretches durſt not ſtir in the Cauſe of their *Pretender*, was this, that they ſaw that all true Proteſtants and *Engliſhmen* were reſolv'd, if Oppoſition had been made, to have fought King *George*'s Way for him to his Throne; and can theſe poor Fools think, that we fear their *Pretender*, and their appearing for him, now that we have our King upon the Throne, the Laws on our Side, the Arms and Strength of the Nation in our Poſſeſſion; and when every Step his rebellious Enemies ſhall take, is ſo much Advance towards *Tyburn*, and with Ropes about their Necks.

No, let all our Popiſh high-flying Enemies know, we fear them not, though with their *Pretender* at their Head, and with all his hereditary Courage; that's too well known already: We have no Reaſon to fear all their united Forces, when we have a King that has made both *French* and *Turks* know his Valour; and when he has ſuch Generals to fight, who have ſo often beaten our Enemies. Let our Enemies come as ſoon as they pleaſe, with all their

Lo-

Loraine and *Iriſh* Confederates, we have thoſe that know how to puſh them to that Extremity, that they will rather drown themſelves than face them, as at the *Danube*, And they have not forgot, how Admiral *Ruſſel* chaſtiz'd them at Sea, that when the good-natur'd *Engliſh* would ſave the Lives of ſome of them, when their Ships were on Fire, they found the poor Wretches lying flat upon their Faces, not having Courage to look up till they were raiſed by Force, to ſee they came to ſave them from periſhing in the Flames of their Ships.

The *Pretender*, in that thing which he calls a Declaration, would affright us with the Apprehenſion of King *George* his Power, who has now the Acceſſion of theſe Kingdoms to the Strength that he had, as *Elector* of *Brunſwick*, &c. will enable him to act arbitrarily. What, is arbitrary Power become ſo formidable a thing all of a ſudden, which, a while a-go, was ſo neceſſary and eſſential to all Monarchs? No; if they would not have us fear ſuch a Power in the Hands of their *Creature*, we ſhall never be afraid of it in the Hands of King *George*. He that uſed his Power, and treated his Subjects ſo well, in his native Dominions, with ſo much Juſtice and Mercy, we have no Suſpicions that he will be changed in coming to us; and we perſwade our ſelves, that as He deſires to be no more arbitrary than our Laws do allow him, we ſhall not deſire him to be leſs. If King *George* have the Balance of Power in his Hands, we are ſatisfy'd, it cannot be in better; and therefore ſhall not be tempted to wiſh it in any other.

All true Proteſtants are ſatisfy'd of the Sincerity of our Sovereign, in his Royal Word and Promiſe he has given his People, how firm and uniform he will be in all his Government, to defend all that is dear to us in Church and State. And we hope, every true *Engliſhman* will reſent, with the utmoſt Indignation, all that brutiſh, barbarous, *Billingſgate* Treatment, that has been offered our Glorious Sovereign, and His truly Royal Race. May true Proteſtants have the Pleaſure and Satisfaction, and his Popiſh *Jacobite* Enemies, the Rage and Vexation, to ſee King *George* to live long, and his Government over us to proſper; and an Encreaſe of His Royal Race for a ſure Supply of a Succeſſion in that Family, to rule over theſe Kingdoms as long as the Sun and Moon endure.

And as for thoſe, who would *monſtrouſly* deferm our Proteſtant Church with a *Popiſh Head*; and would have *French Dragoons* to defend our Churches; a *French* Vice-Roy to protect our Rights and Privileges; the Conſtitutions of Parliaments reformed, by Additions of ſome of the Popiſh Clergy to their Numbers. Thoſe who have Power to elect, bound to follow the Directions of the Biſhop of the Dioceſe; and the Biſhop, or Pope of *Rome*, to have the Right and Power of giving the laſt Hand, or Sanction to all our Acts of Parliament: Who would ſell their Votes to procure ſuch Parliaments, as would condemn all our Heretical Books to the Flames, not ſparing our Bibles; that would clog our Cities with Convents, filled with uſeleſs Drones; who would fill our Calendars with Liſts of *Tyburn* Saints, and make us worſhip thoſe that would have been our

Massacrers and Murderers; who would assist in the procuring such as would condemn Thousands of Protestants by wholesale, upon common Popish Fame, and without allowing the Liberty of being heard, *&c.* Might all those, whoever they are, that are so troublesome to others, and uneasy in themselves, be transplanted, with their idoliz'd *Perkin*, to some Parts of the World hitherto uninhabited, how happy should we be in such a Riddance of them, and should not envy them their Choice of what *Pretender* they please for their Sovereign. But might they there experience his absolute, arbitrary, unlimited Power, and their own unlimited Slavery, as his Beasts of Burden; and there eat Grass, like Brutes as they are, till their Reason return to them, and they be made fit for the Society of Men, *Englishmen*, and Protestants. But they ought to undergo sufficient Trials, before they be re-admitted to partake with us, in those Privileges which are our Birthright, under the best constituted Government in the World.

And now for a Close. As *Coleman* said, when he solicited the aiding of his Master, the Duke of *York*, with the *French* King's Purse; "If we "advance the Duke's Interest one Step forward, "we put him out of the Reach of Chance for "ever:" So would I say to all my brave Protestant Countrymen, out of Zeal for our Reformed Religion, a due Esteem of our Liberties; out of Loyalty to our Sovereign, a Love to our Families, and our own Peace; do but this once stand Proof against *French* and *Romish* Bribes, and see and judge for our selves, like

like *Engliſhmen* and Proteſtants, and act accordingly, and we may hope long to enjoy the Bleſſing and Happineſs of King *George*'s Reign; and how much ſoever *Papiſts* and *Jacobites* may envy us, it may never be in their Power to endanger us, nor ever diſturb a Proteſtant Succeſſion in the Royal Race of our Glorious King *George*: And of every ſuch Deſcendant in their Day, may it always be ſaid,

——— *Paterna Laude claruit, & ſua.*

FINIS.

4 JA 55